being broadcast w.e.f. 8.5.76 and 24.6.91 respectively from these stations.

(b) to (e) Radio coverage is available to the entire state of Haryana from these two stations and from Delhi Channels. Hence, from radio coverage point of view both area and population wise, the existing centres are considered sufficient. However, a local Radio station with 6 KW FM Tr. MP studio is being set up at Hissar. The station is expected to be completed by December, 1997.

[English]

Irregular Functiong of A.I.R Leh

290. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether frequent break down in broadcasting services have become routine affairs of the Leh station of the AIR;

(b) whether most of the recordings and portable equipments have shifted to Kargil station of AIR resulting further deterioration of the programmes of Leh station of AIR;

(c) whether listeners have complained many times to the AIR authorities at Leh, as well as , Delhi for weak receptions in the remote areas and substandard and lack lustre programme being broadcast over the said station; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such occurance in future?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) Do not arise.

Daily flights from Vizag -Hyderabad and Vizag-Chennai-Calcutta

291. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to operate daily flights from Vizag-Hyderabad and Vizag-Chennai in view of public demands;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN): (a) to (c) Commercial and operational constraints at present do not permit operation of daily services on these routes. Alliance Air,a wholly owned subsidiary of Indian Airlines is, however, already operating three flights per week on Vizag/Chennai/Vizag sector, six flights per week on Hyderabad/Vizag/Hyderabad sector and three flights per week on Vizag /Calcutta/Vizag route.

Guidelines for Private Airlines

292. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government intend to withdraw guidelines which make it mandatory for private airlines operating on trunk and other profitable routes as well as on an uneconomic routes;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the adverse impact of such a decision in communication-wise difficult zones or areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) However, various suggestions for providing concessions to air operators connecting the far flung, remote and inaccessible areas like the North-Eastern region, J & K, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep are under consideration.

[Translation]

Working Hours of Pilots

293. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the prescribed working hours for the Pilots and crew members;

(b) whether the Government intend to reduce their working hours; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) Members of flight crew (both cockpit and cabin crew) are required to be utilised by operators in such a manner that they do not exceed flight time, flight duty time limitations and rest hours as notified by the DGCA.